



11th ANNUAL STATEWIDE SYMPOSIUM IN SUPPORT OF
SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES

APRIL 21 & 22, 2021 – 8:30 – 12:00

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE CENTER



St. Mary's
Food Bank[®]

Lauren Tomlinson

Mobile Distribution

Manager
l.tomlinson@firstfoodbank.or

(928) 220-5335 (cell)

linkedin.com/in/laurentomlinson



About Me

- I have been either volunteering or working in the nonprofit/social sector for over 11 years in various leadership capacity
 - Professional experience in Board Development, Branding, Volunteer Engagement, Fundraising, and Programming.
- I have my BA from Purdue University, my MNM from Regis University
- I have personal experience with food insecurity, which is why I love what I do, and I am passionate about “making it work”
- As the Mobile Distribution Manager, I oversee both our Home Delivery Team and our Mobile Distribution Team
- I have been with St. Mary’s Food Bank for just under 5 years, and in this role for just under 1 year.
- I believe in getting out in the community and seeing how our programs work on the frontlines



Our Mission

St. Mary's Food Bank serves to **alleviate hunger** through the gathering and distribution of food while encouraging **self-sufficiency, collaboration, advocacy and education.**

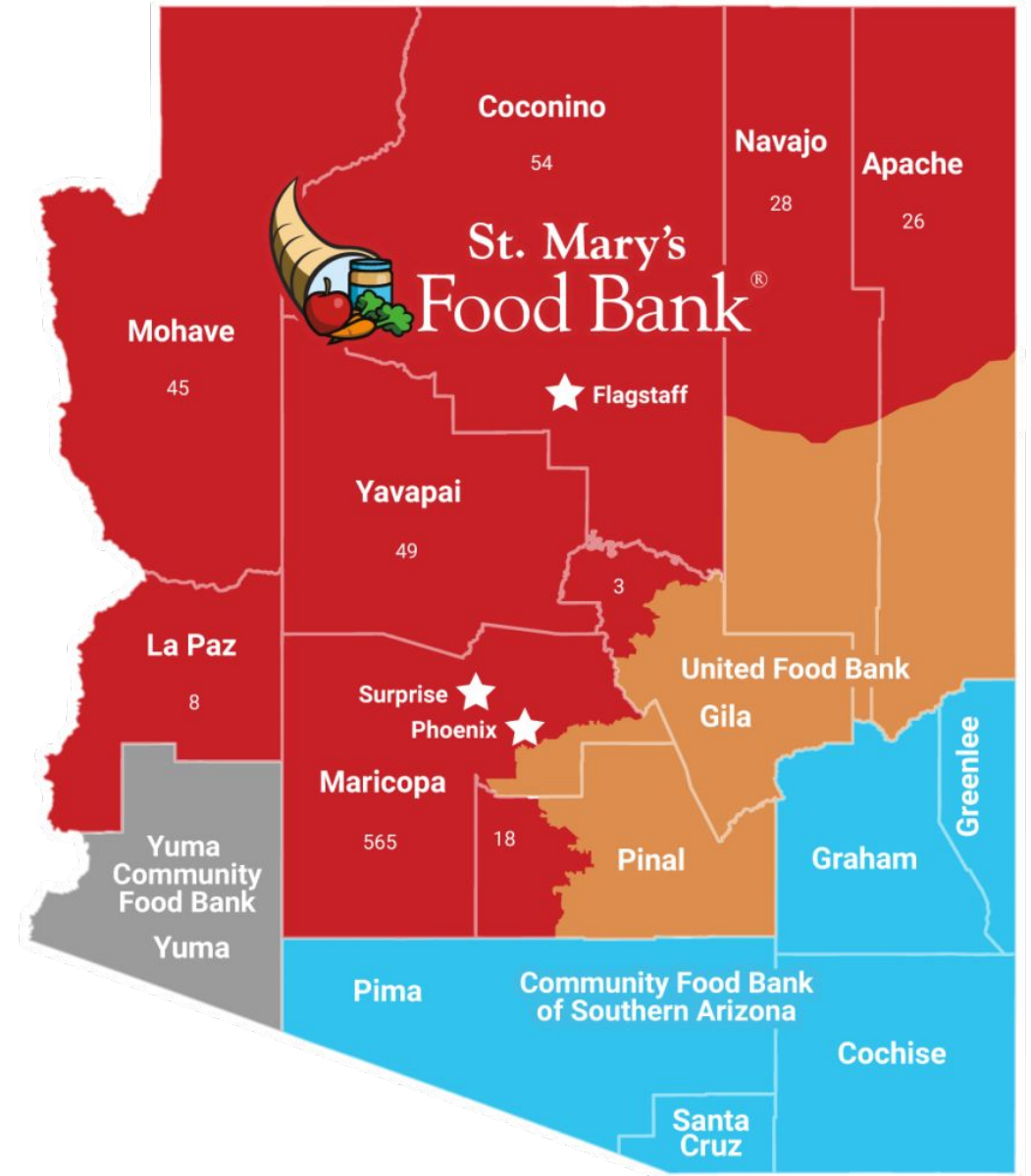


Our Service Area

We cover **81,000** square miles of territory.

We work with **800+** Agency Partners throughout Arizona.

We distribute food in **13** Arizona counties.



How the pandemic impacted food-insecure households

- Higher volume of families and households needing food assistance
 - Pre-Pandemic– St. Mary’s Food had never distributed more than 10 million pounds of food per month, since the pandemic we exceeded 10 million pounds of food every month
- Higher number of calls about people and families who were not able to get to the food banks or to food resources near them.
- More easily identified large hunger relief program gaps



How did food banks respond?



Notification of new distribution policies

First, we adjusted our distribution model at our warehouse and trained partner organizations throughout Arizona on Best Practices to providing “no-contact distributions”, limited-contact distributions, to maintain social distancing.



How did food banks respond? Cont.

- Expanded traditional food distribution programming throughout Arizona
- Began partnerships with our community organizations who had access to food-insecure families with a passion for collaborating and working together



How did food banks respond? Cont.

We also Launched an expanded Home Delivery Program now for families living in Maricopa, Pinal, and Yavapai counties.

The home delivery program provides weekly food deliveries and an online registration system at www.firstfoodbank.org/get-help



**Do you need food assistance
but are unable to get to a food bank?**

St. Mary's Food Bank has launched a new COVID Relief Home Delivery Program to help bring vital supplies to you and your family!

Learn more and sign up for your home delivery at

www.firstfoodbank.org/get-help

or call
(602) 344-4124 for more information

Home delivery is currently only available for Maricopa, Pinal, and Yavapai County residents. Additional delivery restrictions may still apply.

This program is subject to change.

 St. Mary's Food Bank

How did food banks respond? Cont.

We also invested how families can find food resources nearest to them.

- www.azfoodbanks.org/get-help
- www.azfoodhelp.org
- www.firstfoodbank.org/get-help

How did food banks respond? Cont.

We also added new training programs for interested families .



COMMUNITY KITCHEN
SERVING UP SKILLS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE
A program of St. Mary's Food Bank

**INTERESTED IN FOOD?
GET TRAINED. FIND A JOB.**

The image shows two women smiling and laughing. The woman on the left is wearing glasses and a dark shirt. The woman on the right is wearing a dark cap, glasses, and a dark shirt. They are in a kitchen or food preparation area.



Thank You!



Lauren Tomlinson

Mobile Distribution

Manager
l.tomlinson@firstfoodbank.or

(928) 220-5335 (cell)

linkedin.com/in/laurentomlinson

